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County Life

Celebrating arts and culture in the Haliburton Highlands

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Cassidy Taylor Live

Haliburton singer-songwriter to perform her music live on Facebook. See page 2.

Music From Home

Online community connects musicians and music fans for virtual concerts. See page 5.

Colouring Contest

Check out the submissions from last week's colouring contest. See pages 7-9.

Photo of Cassidy Taylor by Michelle Liane Gerovac

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Laurie Scott, MPP
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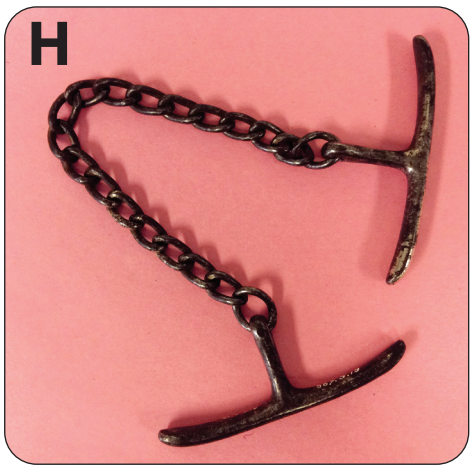
At a distance ...

Readers share how they're making the best of social distancing. Share with us! Send in your photos of your kids' artwork, pictures of what you and your family are up to, craft projects, best binge-worthy TV shows - and we'll share them here. Email jenn@haliburtonpress.com

Bentley enjoys craft time!
/Submitted by Christine
(Bentley's grandma)



G is for Golden Spray Cheese. Though the packaging says it spreads like butter, a little research reveals it was also called "loaf cheese," though we aren't sure that makes it sound more appealing! Anyone out there have any insights?

H is for handcuffs. These come-along handcuffs belonged to John Russell Reid Jr, who was town constable in 1882/3. Apparently, those who held the position then were asked to supply their own handcuffs and billy club!

I is for Iron - of the curling variety! As you can see, this is a cordless variety (!) which actually would have been heated on a stove top. Often, the iron would cool before the curling was done, so they were usually sold in sets.

To help you visit the museum from home, the Haliburton Highlands Museum has shared its museum alphabet - one item for every letter.

Cassidy Taylor concert live-streaming April 25

Those looking for a virtual "night out," when we all have to stay in will be interested in checking out the Haliburton County Folk Society's live-stream concert series, which features Haliburton's Cassidy Taylor on Saturday, April 25 at 7:30 p.m.

The folk society has postponed and cancelled its other activities due to concern about the potential spread of COVID-19, so it will be live-streaming four concerts, the first of which took place on April 11, on its Facebook page.

"We had a very successful dry run of this concept last week with the support of Canoe FM Radio Hall," a press release from the folk society says. "The performers were our own Nick & Benton (Nick Russell and Benton Brown). This concert helped us work out many of the issues associated with presenting a quality live-streaming concert."

More than 200 devices connected to the live event, demonstrating to organizers there is demand.

All concerts will be free, but will include a donation component for those who want to offer the artist a tip.

See Cassidy Taylor on the Haliburton County Folk Society's Facebook page on Saturday, April 25 at 7:30 p.m.

Staff

County Life

The following inserts are being distributed with County Life this week:

Foodland *

Minden Valumart *

Rexall *

Shoppers Drug Mart Haliburton *

Todd's Independent *

All inserts are to selected distribution areas.

For information on how your flyer can be inserted each week in County Life please contact Melissa Armstrong at **613-332-2002** or **melissa@haliburtonpress.com**

Receive the Echo or Times Free

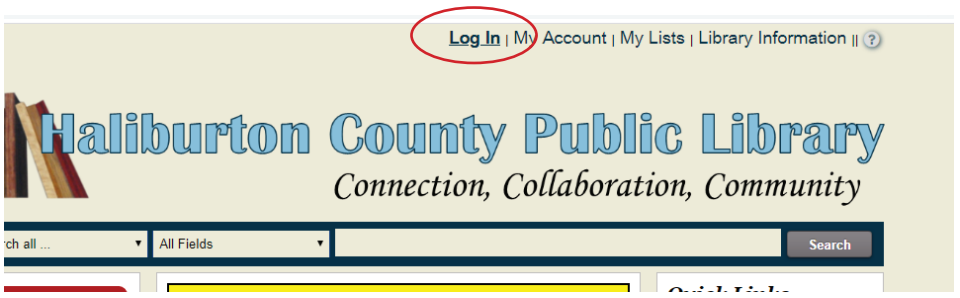
To ensure important information is accessible to the community during the coronavirus pandemic, for a limited time, the Haliburton Echo and Minden Times will send out FREE e-editions of our newspaper.

Please email our circulation manager Debbie Comer - debbie@haliburtonpress.com - with your email address, name, and which paper you would like to receive.

Haliburton County Public Library At Home

Accessing Haliburton County Public Library website:

Type haliburtonlibrary.ca into the search bar in your browser.
Click on "Log In" at the top right of the home page.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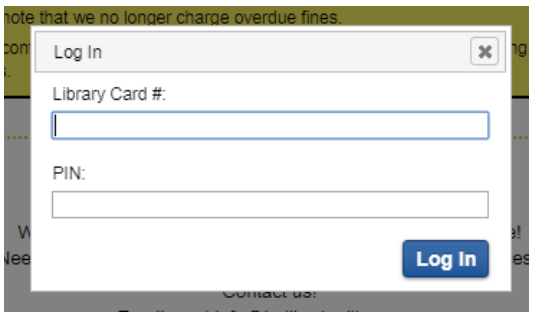
Enter your library card number without spaces and your PIN. What's your PIN? Try the last 4 digits of your card number or the last 4 digits of your phone number. If that doesn't work – contact us at info@haliburtonlibrary.ca.



From here you can create lists of books you want to read, see what you have checked out, place holds and more! Did you know? Every two years your library card needs to be renewed. To do this online, select "My Account" from the top right of the home page. If your account is up for renewal you will see the renew button in the box on the right. If your address or phone number have changed, please email us at info@haliburtonlibrary.ca so we can update your account.

Make your own bath bombs at home

1 cup citric acid (this can be found at the bulk food store in Haliburton Village)
¼ cup coconut oil
½ cup baking soda
½ cup epsom salts
½ cup cornstarch
(Essential oils and food colouring is optional)

In a large bowl, whisk together the dry ingredients.

Drizzle in coconut oil (approximately ¼ cup) until the mixture just clumps together. If you start to see fizzing that means there is too much liquid in one area, stir quickly to distribute the moisture. Add just enough coconut oil so that the mix holds together when you squeeze it in your hands.

Add colour: If colouring your bath bombs, use a few drops of food colouring to get your desired shade and knead well to distribute colour.

Add a few drops of essential oil if desired. Be careful to add ones with skin soothing properties.

Pack your mould with the bath bomb mix, try plastic Easter eggs, muffin tins, or ice cube trays in place of bath bomb moulds. You want the mix to be very firmly compressed in the moulds and let harden for at least 30 minutes.

Carefully unmould your bath bombs and let sit overnight to finish drying. If you mess up while unmoulding your bath bombs press into your mould and try again. If it starts to get too dry to work with, just sprinkle a few more drops of coconut oil and mix well.

This one was made at the Minden branch last fall and included the addition of dried lavender.

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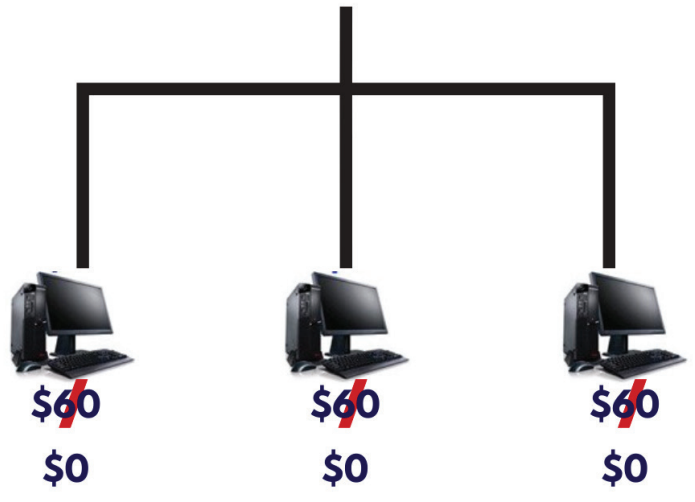

We've been asking ourselves here at SolidState, "What can we do to help our community weather the chaos that the COVID-19 outbreak is causing to help businesses stay open?"

With forced closures as our government continues plea for social distancing, the only option for many is to work from home. But what if that feels impossible?

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But that does not mean you can not get the supplies you need to operate your essential services or projects. We have implemented a COVID -19 procedure to keep everyone safe.

We will be available to you through email and will check our voicemail daily. If you require any supplies please email **cordellcarpet@bellnet.ca or phone 705-457-2022.**

If supplies are available we will make arrangements for you to pick up your order at a designated area outside the store. This will ensure the safety of our staff and of our valued customers.

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Music From Home attracts thousands of music fans

SUE TIFFIN

County Life Staff

Days into staying at home to stay safe and help prevent the spread of coronavirus, Brent Coltman, a guitar player and musician who regularly jammed when community could gather had the idea of sharing a video or two of the songs he was playing on Facebook. He wasn't exactly sure how to do that, but his nephew, Aaron Brown, stepped in to help, suggesting that rather than Brent posting to his personal page, he launch a public page on Facebook so that the general public could join in. Music From Home was created soon after.

"I posted the very first video, I was playing for a group of one, and by that afternoon we probably had two to 300 people," said Brent.

Five days later, more than 1,570 people had joined. And now, since March 10, the site is followed by more than 2,600 people – many of them local, but some from as far away as the Yukon, the Maritimes and Europe, many of those people noting a connection to the area.

"Not in a million years, not in a million years," said Brent from his Minden home, when asked if he had expected the popularity of the page. "Just my friends, my friends and family posting some of their songs and videos and we'd laugh at them and joke at them, that was the original plan."

Instead, the page has become a place where musicians – amateur or not – are encouraged. Many of the videos are uploaded by people who don't perform publicly, and are hesitant and humble in their posts, but who receive encouraging comments from those watching, including the site administrators, Brent, his wife Annie, and nephew Aaron.

Brent Coltman, of Minden, launched the Music From Home page on Facebook soon after staying home due to the coronavirus pandemic. The page now has more than 2,500 members. /Submitted

"I'm just blown away with how people have responded, and so impressed with the local talent," said Brent. "People I grew up with, like Kevin Fairey, I didn't even know he sang. I didn't even know he played guitar and he just lived down the road from me."

Brent is self-employed and usually has the winter off, but joked that being an administrator on the site – making sure the videos stick to the rule of being live-recorded or live – is "a full-time job."

"This just makes your days go by," he said. "I've had probably 30 people calling the house saying 'this is incredible, we don't even watch Netflix anymore. We don't watch the videos during the day, we have an early supper, and we spend the whole evening watching music videos.'"

Aaron Brown helped his uncle Brent Coltman start the Music From Home page, making Brent's idea of sharing music while sheltering in place at home something the general public could participate in. /Submitted

Annie Coltman, one of the Music From Home page administrators, told the group: "Everyone has come together like a very large family ... Music connects us all, whether we can play, write, sing, listen or heal from it." /Submitted

Brent said the site is beneficial to those who want to see familiar faces and find comfort in the music being shared, but also to those who find the courage to upload videos of original music, songs sung in the quiet of the front seat of a car, and songs that are usually sung alone or with one's family.

"I'm probably the shyest guitar player in the world," said Brent. "But when I'm sitting on my favourite couch with my guitar, and the iPad set up on my music stand and I play a song, I'm not playing to anybody. I'm just sitting with my guitar. You don't get the comments that there's 1,500 people. When you hit post, now you've got three Minden arenas listening to you, technically, you've got 1,500 people sitting in their living room looking at you playing the song, but there's no pressure when you do the song."

Brent noted there are also well-known local musicians posting videos.

"It's like a personal concert in your living room," he said. "They're in their living room stuck, singing a song to you."

But he also gets a kick out of, "the little kids playing a ukulele for grandma and grandpa."

In a video posted in the group March 31, Annie thanked members for sharing their music with each other.

"You have given us all a warm welcome into your homes, and lives," she said. "You have placed us beside you on the couch, and put us at your kitchen table. You've kept us warm beside your wood stove and let us peek at you making maple syrup. Everyone has come together like a very large family. Isolation is difficult, especially anyone suffering from mental illness or living alone. Music connects us all, whether we can play, write, sing, listen or heal from it ... Please stay safe, and look each after each other, as we are all making memories."

To listen in or share a tune, visit Music From Home on Facebook.

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Send your letters to the editor to jenn@haliburtonpress.com. Letters must be signed and include a phone number.

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Breaking homeostasis

HOMEOSTASIS IS DEFINED as "the tendency toward a relatively stable equilibrium between interdependent elements, especially as maintained by physiological processes." Simply put, it's a steady state maintained by living systems. Even before the you-know-what hit the fan I found myself struggling with breaking the steady state. Whoever created the couch did us no favours. Especially the person that decided adding really cushy cushions to it would be a good idea. Now that this virus has stopped the world, breaking homeostasis is harder than ever. If we don't change something now there will be a whole bunch more pain when we can move around freely again.

LAURIE SWEIG
Practical Fitness

The first tip I have is to find a system that reminds you to get up. If you have a cellphone or tablet there is a timer function. I find that easier than setting an alarm for a specific time. Another trick is to put the device on the other side of the room. That way there's no choice but to get up and shut it off. That is more than half the battle won!

I use the Pomodoro method. That is 25 minutes of "work" and a five-minute break. There are two benefits to this method. One is that it gets me sitting down and working. There is something that feels attainable about focusing for 25 minutes. The other benefit is that it provides for frequent standing and moving breaks. Choose the timing that works best for you. The more you get up, the more your blood flows and that is a good thing! In addition to working out muscle tightness it improves brain function.

Next, what do you do when you do stand up? This current situation that we are all in is limiting. Saying that "we should make the best of it" sounds trite but it is one choice that we all have. So, get up and move in the space that you have. Exercises like push-ups, squats, lunges, planks and burpees are obvious choices (OK, maybe not the burpees) but how about trying something a little different? I created this sequence of exercises for a client who was sitting far too much and paying the price with back soreness. If you're someone who does yoga it's similar to a sun salutation but I like to call it a burpee-in-disguise.

• From a standing position put your hands on the floor in front of you and walk them forward into a downward dog. Hold this position for as long as you like. It's a great stretch.

• Walk your hands forward into a straight arm plank and hold for a bit.

• Do five or more push-ups.

• Lower your body to the floor and into the cobra. Hold here as long as it feels good.

• Lift your body back into the straight arm plank position and walk your hands back into the downward dog. Hold again.

• Walk your hands back toward your feet, while bending your knees and rolling on to your heels so that you end up in the squat position. Do five or more squats while you're there.

• Repeat or stand up and head back to whatever it was you were doing.

If you are going to give this a try, only do the parts that are good for you to do. Remember, doing something is better than doing nothing. Don't let the steady state get the better of you.

Something to think about.

Laurie Sweig is a certified personal fitness trainer and spinning instructor. She owns and operates The Point for Fitness. She can be reached at laurie@thepointforfitness.com.

Top 10 reasons cats lie on computer keyboards

IT COULD BE just a sign of cabin fever, but lately I feel like my cat and I have been communicating more openly and honestly and learning a lot more about each other. OK, now that I put that in print, I realize it's cabin fever for sure.

Regardless, I have had a lot of time to think about the important things that plague us as a species. And, after way too much thought, I have finally come out with an understanding about one of our most enduring problems. Here are the top 10 reasons cats deliberately lie down on your computer keyboard:

STEVE GALEA
Humour Columnist

1. There's far too much fur on the couch.
2. Your cellphone is way too small.
3. They're just trying to help you delete a few important emails.
4. It honestly thought it heard you say you were in a Cat Room.
5. To you it's a keyboard, to the cat it's a whole lot of tiny massaging fingers.
6. It heard about the "paws" key.
7. It's decided to hold the keyboard hostage until dinner is served.
8. It's thinking, "If you didn't want me to lie on this thing, why did you place it between you and the TV?"
9. No cat wants to meow off key.
10. It heard there was a mouse nearby.

Water rushes over a beaver dam beside the Buckhorn Road. /LEN PIZZEY Special to County Life

Questions for the Between

So here it is - done! Thirty years (and really, 72)
passing like poured water,
arriving now at a place so unfamiliar
that settling contains only a few seconds
of clear sky at a time. "You exaggerate"
you might say - but not a shred -

What is it, I wonder now, that allowed
so much to be done, and so easily?
And what is it now that wrinkles time
so deeply that all those same things
appear at once, and impossible in the moment?

And even further: when will it settle?
And what does it take to invite it to settle,
then allow it to do so?
And what if it doesn't settle at all?

So here is the moment of faith -
Real faith, I might add -believing
that the rise and fall, the swirl and stream,
the race and rowing, the rhythm of
the light and dark, the swirling seasons,
the sickness and dying, the small gains
and larger losses - on it goes, on it all goes -

And the trust that standing still,
opening within, receiving now,
more than giving - it is all one ribbon
of the streaming colors weaving
in and through the river that is life!

By Brenda Peddigrew

Colouring Contest!

Sponsored by:

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Get out your crayons, pastels or markers and do your best to colour in this drawing for your chance to win one of three prizes from Glecoff's Family Store.

County Life will be selecting a winner in three age categories each week: up to five years old; five to 10; and 11 and up.

All you need to do is colour in this page and take a photo or scan it and email it to classifieds@haliburtonpress.com. Be sure to include the name, age, and contact information.

Winners will be contacted each Thursday. Submitted entries may appear in subsequent issues of County Life.

Eden Kuepfer, 4

Alexis Feero, 9

Kateri Gingras, 10

Drey Cook, 10

Lilly Adam, 10

Fia and Luna Scuhr, 6 and 7

Beatrice Gingras, 5

Elizabeth Gingras, 8

William Rupay, 7

Audrey Powell, 5

Claire Lynch, 8

Erynn Card, 9

Heather Beggs, 36

Sydney Steffensen, 11

Mary Ann Gingras, 43

Congratulations to the winners of the Heron colouring page contest.

Eden Kuepfer, 4
Erynn Card, 9
Sydney Steffensen,11

Katie Lavalle, 8

Sydney Letourneau, 7

Sophia Marie Burke, 10

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– Grant Roughley,
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The Haliburton Highlands Health Services (HHHS) currently has exciting opportunities available for energetic individuals to join our team!

Registered Nurses

Candidates are expected to be available for both Minden and Haliburton Hospital locations. In addition, opportunities are available in our two Long Term Care facilities, Hyland Wood and Hyland Crest. The RN is responsible for providing comprehensive care to patients, with predictable and unpredictable outcomes who may or may not be clinically stable.

The successful candidate will possess a current triage course certification, Coronary Care 1, and current ACLS are required to work in the Emergency Department. Candidates that lack advanced certification in Coronary Care 2 and Emergency Nursing 1 and 2 may be hired with the requirement to independently attain these qualifications within 6 months-2 years of hire, depending on the certification, in order to work in all areas.

Two years of acute care practice is required; previous emergency department or specialty department experience of 1 year or more is preferred. The successful candidate will possess a diploma/degree in Nursing and a current Certificate of Competence from the College of Nurses of Ontario. Recent experience is preferred.

Registered Practical Nurses

Provide client care in accordance with the Professional Standards of the College of Nurses of Ontario. She or he, as a member of the health care team, has a significant role in promoting health, preventing illness, and helping clients attain and maintain the highest level of health possible in situations in which a clients condition is relatively stable, less complex and the outcomes of care are predictable.

RPN's must have a diploma in Nursing, a Current Certificate of Competence from the College of Nurses of Ontario, current BCLS, with regular and consistent participation of CNO's quality assurance and reflective practice program. Must have a demonstrated knowledge of RPN scope of practice, excellent organization and prioritization skills and an ability to read, write and communicate effectively in English. Excellent interpersonal skills and ability to work well with patients/family, staff, physicians and the community are critical. Added Nursing skills for RPN's In addition, the successful candidate must be available to work day, evening and night shifts, along with weekends and statutory holidays. A commitment to attend work on a consistent basis is also a requirement.

Personal Support Workers

Provides resident care in relation to activities of daily living, quality of life, environment management and continuous communication. She or he, as a member of the health care team, has a significant role in promoting health, preventing illness, and helping residents attain and maintain the highest level of health possible in situations in which a resident's condition is relatively stable, less complex and the outcomes of care are predictable.

Candidates must have successfully completed a Personal Support Worker program that meets one of the following: The vocational standards established by the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities, he standards established by the National Association of Career Colleges, or The standards established by the Ontario Community Support Association and is at least 600 hours in length. Experience in working with the acutely or chronically ill and/or palliative clients preferred, understanding of MDS RAI is an asset, good problem solver, organizing your own work, excellent recording and reporting skills, personal care skills, ability to read, write and communicate effectively in English, CPR Preferred.

Further details and how to apply are available on our website at https://www.hhhs.ca

400 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Looking for young energetic individual for grounds maintenance. Neat in appearance and are able to work well with others. Call or text *Jack 705-457-0880*

Local summer camp requires a full time seasonal maintenance assistant. Job duties include some cleaning/ carpentry and trash removal. Valid drivers license required. Interested parties may call *705-754-2374.* Leave a detailed message. Salary based on experience.

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Tender Call for Grounds Keeping Contract

Canada Post is inviting tenders for Grounds Keeping to start May 1, 2020 at the Kinmount Post Office

Specifications may be picked up at the Post Office located at 4078 County Rd. 121

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BounceBack offers mental health support during COVID-19 crisis

To help Ontarians navigating the difficult realities in the wake of COVID-19, the Ontario government has announced an expansion of online and virtual mental health supports, including Canadian Mental Health Association's BounceBack program.

BounceBack is available now, free of charge, to help people experiencing mild to moderate anxiety, stress and other mental health challenges associated with the pandemic.

Grounded in cognitive behavioural therapy (CBT), BounceBack is a guided self-help approach that is a proven, effective way to help people aged 15 and up who may be feeling low, stressed out, worried, depressed, irritable or angry.

BounceBack participants receive telephone coaching, skill-building workbooks and online videos to help them overcome mild-to-moderate symptoms and gain new skills to regain positive mental health.

BounceBack offers different guided self-help workbooks that include titles such as Understanding Worry and Stress, Overcoming Sleep Problems, Changing Extreme and Unhelpful Thinking, Why Do I Feel So Bad? and 10 Things You Can Do to Feel Happier Straight Away.

BounceBack is not a crisis service or counselling program, but a life-skills course that helps participants develop coping techniques so they can overcome challenges now or in the future. BounceBack coaches are extensively trained in the delivery of the program and are overseen by clinical psychologists. The main responsibilities of BounceBack coaches are to foster skill development, provide motivation and monitor progress. BounceBack telephone coaching is available in more than 15 languages.

To receive telephone coaching, clients must either be referred by a health care practitioner (family doctor, nurse practitioner), or they may self-refer as long as they're connected with a primary care provider. It's important that primary care providers maintain responsibility for their clients' overall well-being during their time in the program as BounceBack coaches are not counsellors or therapists.

"We're living in an unprecedented time amid this COVID-19 pandemic, and we're thankful that the provincial government recognizes the effect this widespread uncertainty can have on everyone's mental health," said CMHA HKPR's chief executive officer, Mark Graham. "We encourage everyone in our community who may be struggling at home to access BounceBack or any of the other expanded mental health services the government has announced."

To learn more about BounceBack, visit bouncebackontario.ca or call 1-866-345-0224.

An Artist's Rant

Isolation! Fourteen days!
No en plein air where water plays.
No sketching, painting magic light
Anchored home both day and night.

I rant. I rage, I scream, I shout
But no one hears, I can't go out!
Windows shut 'gainst wind and cold,
Brushes dry, no canvas bold.

COVD-19 still holds sway
Coronavirus ruins my day.
I cannot see how water plays
Or hear it crash these silent days.

O to settle beside a brook
Chick-a-dee-dee, chick-a-dee-dee.
Buds are popping. Pop. Pop. Pop.
Coronavirus Stop. Stop. Stop!

What care I? I'll bolt my door.
I wait, I worry, I pace the floor.
Email missives cheer my soul.
Texts abound. I set my goal!

Today will be a fruitful day.
North light floods my easel.
Mozart's here where he will stay
When I settle down to play.

RoseMarie Condon

Turkey in the thaw

Soft rain burns dregs of winter
A few white stripes survive
And swelling through the rotting snow
Our dozing lands revive

It's silent, save for water
Which works its many ways
It spits in whispers, mirrors sky
In whites and taupes and greys

And suddenly I'm jolted
My reverie subsides
Imaginary watercolour
Vanishes and hides

A clownish flock of turkeys
A 'rafter' of wild fowl
With business set upon their beaks
Our property to prowl

And peck with odd abandon
All wary and all weird
They gobble in a nervous way
Some sporting stringy beard

I survey through my window
Since isolation bound,
With virus waiting out there
Inside I'm mostly found

But when I fetch phone camera
All birds have found thin air
Although there were two dozen
Can't spot them anywhere

And sudden as appearance
Both peace and thaw rebound
Like cat I wait behind the glass
For next wild come-around

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Inside The Echo

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Victory! ... see page 7

THE HALIBURTON COUNTY ECHO
AND MINDEN RECORDER

Vol. 103 No. 27 Wednesday, April 10, 1985 'Voice of the Highlands' 18 pages 40 cents

Bantams, Juveniles win titles

Teams celebrate victory with parade through communities

Sunday was a memorable day in the history of local hockey as the Haliburton OMHA Bantam Huskies and the Minden Juvenile Monarchs skated and scored their way to the all-Ontario championship in their respective divisions.

Haliburton's win came in Teeswater on Sunday afternoon in game six of the best of seven series. advantage despite trailing 3 - 2 in the series. They had the support of home town fans, and carried momentum from a Friday night victory at the Dysart arena, a contest that local hockey fans had hoped would be the final one for the Huskies.

Haliburton players were determined to avenge the loss, however, and they came out better organized than they had been on Friday.

Neither side scored in the first period, but in the second Teeswater notched two quick markers that put pressure on the Huskies. Late in the period Scott Russell got Haliburton on the board with help from Erin Nicholls and Jeff Warburton.

Teeswater gained back their two-goal lead early in the third period, but at the mid-way point, Nicholls narrowed the gap to one. Russell then notched the tieing goal, but Teeswater netted another to make it 4 - 3. With a little over four minutes left, Russell once again tied the score to the delight of the contingent of Haliburton fans who had made the trip to Teeswater.

The score remained tied at the end of regulation time, forcing an overtime period. Haliburton completely dominated play in this frame despite Teeswaters' superior bench numbers. Erin Nicholls got what proved to be the winner at 8:05, and insurance markers came from Alan Rydman and Colin Hunter.

Word of the Huskies victory reached the Minden arena later that evening as the Monarchs battled Paisley in game three of the best of five series. The Minden club dominated play in the first two matches, and with a throng of home town fans behind them, they made it look easy, skating to a 7 - 2 victory and the series championship.

Lennie Johnston, Barry Boice and Jeff Howe each notched two goals in the winning effort, with Tim Woods getting the other marker for the Monarchs.

The only flaw in an otherwise entertaining game was a fight that broke out between some Minden fans and members of the Paisley club. It resulted in an ugly stick swinging duel but was quickly quelled by two OPP officers from Minden detachment who were in the arena at the time.

Following the game captain Jeff Howe accepted the championship trophy from a league representative and the team carried it in triumph around the arena amid the din of cheering, whistling fans.

Later the Minden club rode around the community on a Minden fire truck, its siren blaring, followed by a parade of about 30 horn blowing car loads of fans.

In Haliburton the returning Bantams also were greeted by the community fire truck, and gathered in the arena auditorium for a brief celebration. Further accolades are expected to be afforded to both teams in the coming weeks.

Minden Monarchs captain Jeff Howe accepted the all Ontario Juvenile championship trophy from OMHA official Sharon Griffin following the teams series winning 7-2 victory over Paisley at the Minden arena Sunday night.

Haliburton's Bantam Huskies hoped to capture the all Ontario championship at home last Friday night, but it wasn't to be. Instead they had to earn the title in game six on Sunday afternoon in Teeswater with a 7-4 overtime victory. It is the first time in many years that a Bantam team from the community has won a provincial title. The team savoured the win with the help of a Dysart fire truck when they got back to town later Sunday evening.

Parents want small schools left open

Victoria County board is on the hot seat over consolidated schools

Parents in Kinmount, Burnt River, Norland, Coboconk and Kirkfield took their case against school consolidation to the Victoria County Board of Education recently and won an assurance that trustees would keep the citizens' concerns in mind.

More than 60 parents from the five communities attended the March 27 meeting to argue against the board's plans to phase out all five schools and replace them with two new facilities in the northern part of Victoria County. The board has asked the province to provide funds for construction but as yet a final decision on the request has not been made.

The board spent two years studying the issue before voting in favour of closing down the five small schools and building two new ones. But parents have resisted the scheme from the outset, and recently organized a 'Save Our Schools' committee to lobby against school closures.

Municipal councils in the area also have taken an active position, registering their disapproval of the board's plans.

Sommerville Township councillor Clayton Cameron was the first of four people who formally addressed the board at the March 27 meeting. Speaking on behalf of council, which is concerned specifically with the Kinmount and Burnt River schools, Cameron said the facilities are essential to the present way of life in the hamlets. In the case of Burnt River, the school and community centre are all that remain of a once larger village, he said.

Cameron argued that the consolidated schools would result in higher costs to the taxpayers in the long term, and would double the time that students presently spend on buses. He said the province proposes to reduce transportation grants to boards by as much as 50 percent over the next 10 years.

Cameron said none of the five schools slated for closure is at maximum capacity and none is in a state of disrepair. He urged the board to reassess the situation and leave the system as it is presently.

James Webster, speaking on behalf of the 'Save Our Schools' committee, told the board that 773 people had signed a petition circulated throughout the area, with 761 supporting the SOS committee's stand, 11 opposed and one undecided. A letter also was sent by the committee to parents of students and future students with similar results. Some 140 people supported the committee, 12 were opposed and 12 were undecided, Webster said.

Webster then introduced David Valentine as an educational expert who would speak on behalf of the SOS committee.

Valentine cautioned the board about the dangers of assuming that provincial grants will remain at present levels. He said the province's intention to increase support for the separate school system will cause a major reapportionment of available funds.

Valentine also refuted the argument that consolidated schools would provide better educational opportunities for area youngsters. He said the performance of gifted

Please turn to Page 3

Is it inevitable? ... see page 4

Zoning change approved for mobile home park

Dysart et al council has approved amendments to its zoning by-law which will permit a mobile home park development near Lochlin.

The 76 lot park will be developed on land owned by Rex Boice on the west side of County Road 1 just north of the hamlet. The land, currently zoned 'Rural', is vacant and was formerly used for farming.

Council approval for the amendments came on Monday, and follows a public meeting last Wednesday night at which ratepayers in the immediate area had an opportunity to voice their concerns.

No objections to mobile home park development were received, but several ratepayers had questions about a proposed rezoning of lands on the east side of County Road 1 also owned by Rex Boice. The amendments would change the zoning designation from Rural to Highway Commercial and Open Space to permit the establishment of a vehicle agency for mobile homes and a neighbourhood store.

Ratepayers present at the meeting were not opposed to the agency and store concept, but were worried that rezoning to Highway Commercial would open the door to a variety of other commercial uses.

As a compromise, the Dysart planning committee suggested that a control be placed on the development agreement stating that if the proposed mobile home park did not proceed beyond the level of 30 percent capacity, the highway commercial zoning on the lands opposite must revert back to the Rural designation. The agreement would permit the vehicle agency, a community store, a craft shop and a retail gasoline facility, but if any other commerical use is proposed, a public meeting will be called to give neighbouring property owners a chance to comment.

The public has a further 35 days from this past Monday to object to the proposed rezoning. If no objections are received, it will then become official. If there are objections which cannot be resolved the proposed rezoning would have to be considered at an Ontario Municipal Board hearing.

Official Plan amended

Dysart councillors have approved an amendment to the municipality's Official Plan which will regulate the development of mobile home parks within the nine townships.

The amendment, the 12th since the Official Plan was put in place, was drafted on council's behalf by Planco Consultants. It was approved by council on Monday, and will now be passed on to the provincial housing ministry for comment before it becomes official.

Policies outlined in the amendment are:

All development proposals shall include a site plan which shows park design, lot size, road layout and surfacing, drainage, parking, topography, existing landscaping, walkways, buffering and common facilities;

Water supply and sewage disposal systems shall be designed and constructed to the satisfaction of the Ministry of the Environment;

The proposed park shall be designed so as to preserve natural features and existing vegetation, especially trees, to the greatest possible extent;

The proposed site shall be compatible with adjacent land uses. An adequate open space area should be included around the perimeter of

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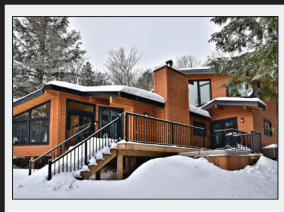
Ultimate privacy with 6.90 acres and 550 ft of clean clear shoreline. Granite walkways and patios. Over 4000 sq ft of living space. This custom built "True North" log home has recently had numerous quality upgrades. Too many to mention. You'll appreciate them when you see them. 5 bdrms, 4 baths, full finished bsmt, insulated triple garage with finished loft.

$2,389,000

Spruce Lake
Custom built 3BR, 3 bath, waterfront home/cottage. With 25 acres, 225 ft of ftrg and Southern exposure. This private and peaceful property. open concept living with beautiful maple cabinetry. Cozy sunroom, gorgeous gazebo or stone patio with firepit. 2 BR guest cottage. Wheelchair accessible.

$1,399,000



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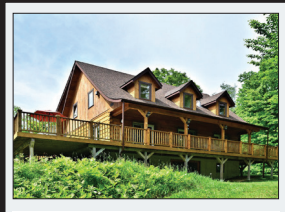
Looking for a yr-rnd home or a 4-season cottage? Breathtaking 3-bdrm, 2 bath home. Custom built kitchen w/ granite countertops, built-in appliances, lrg island & much more. Low maintenance property is very energy efficient. 4 season sunroom. Ramps, paths & staircases suitable for all ages. 4 season bunkie & double car garage.

$1,150,000

Grass Lake
Stunning 4 BR, 4 bath turn key home/cottage. Large sunny level lot. 100+ ft of private frtg and personal boat launch. Panoramic lake view. 80ft deck. High quality finishing's. Many upgrades in fall of 2018. Double attached garage and detached single garage with carport. Shows pride of ownership.

$1,050,000

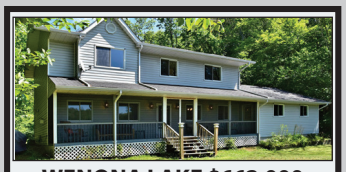


Colbourne Lake
Enjoy being close to nature in a quiet, private and peaceful setting. 4 BR, 2 bath log home/ cottage. 25 acres of mature trees. Stunning open concept living. Engineered hardwood flooring, granite countertops and walk-out to covered wraparound deck. Heated workshop with loft.

$999,000

Kennisis Lake
Low maintenance 4 season cottage. 4 bdrm, 1 Bath. Open concept. Oversized dining area perfect for hosting. Large deck with glass railing. Lots of space for the whole family to stay. Additional living space in bunkie. Beautifully landscaped maintenance free property. Granite flower beds and stairway to water. Ample privacy and much more.

$899,000



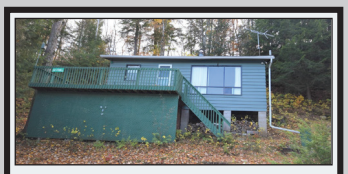
WENONA LAKE $662,000
Looking for a quiet, calm and peaceful four season cottage or waterfront home? Look no further. This 3 BR, 3 bath immaculate cottage sits on a private lot. Large open concept living, excellent for hosting family gatherings. 125ft of frtg with stunning western views.

HALIBURTON LAKE $619,000
Meticulously cared for 3 BR, 2 bath year round home/cottage. Private lot perfect for children to play. 176 ft ftrg. Beautiful sandy beach, dock and full sun. Bright open concept living. Fully finished lower level. Enjoy the stunning views of nature. Detached single garage.

KENNISIS LAKE $569,000
It's all about the lot!! Enjoy the gorgeous sunsets from this west facing level lot. Amazing rock shoreline, deep water entry is great for the avid swimmers. 125 ft frontage and year round road. Looking for a fixer upper this one is for you! 3 bdrms 2 with balconies.

CARROLL ROAD $559,500
Every nature lovers dream! 3 bdrm, 2 bath rustic log home perfectly situated on 92ac. Deck around the front & side to enjoy your lovely yard, gardens & forest. Complete and utter privacy! Open concept kitchen-dining finished with wood cabinetry and grand wood cookstove. Large 3 bay garage.

TWELVE MILE LAKE $558,000
Offering a million-dollar view and spectacular sunsets! Bright open concept custom built 3 BR, 3 bath home. Floor to ceiling windows providing stunning lake views. Finished lower level. Cozy 3 season cedar screened in porch.



LONG LAKE $499,900
Choose to build your dream cottage on this stunning property overlooking Long Lake or renovate the existing building which includes 2 BR and 1 full bath. Extensive 650' of water frontage. Private seasonal access and beautifully wooded 54+/- acres provides ample privacy.

MISKWABI LAKE $486,900
Turnkey 3 bdrm, 4 season cottage. Open concept living space. Finished with pine walls and ceilings, gives the true cottage feel. Recently installed laminate flooring throughout, indoor sauna. This property has it all! Walk-out to wrap around deck. Bunkie for additional living space.

KOSHLONG LAKE $458,500
Charming 2-bdrm 1 bath fully furnished cottage. Perfectly situated in a quiet bay. Pine walls and flooring throughout provides a true cottage feel.Finished bunkie. With many recent upgrades this cottage is move in ready. Large wrap around deck. Enjoy the panoramic views.

NESBITT ROAD $399,999
Recently renovated 4 bdrm, 2 bath home. Beautifully treed level lot. Many recent upgrades include new roof, fully renovated bathrooms, luxury vinyl flooring throughout, blown-in insulation and much more. Finished lower level, large deck and heated attached double car garage.

PERCY LAKE $379,000
Great traditional family cottage! 4 Bdrm, 1 bath cottage has open concept living space finished w/ laminate flooring and wood interior boasts cottage charm. Large lakefront deck. Southern exposure. The list doesn't stop there, sauna building at waters edge, large sitting deck and dock.

LITTLE GLAMOR LAKE $359,000
Open concept traditional 3-bdrm cottage. Large windows and walk out to the lakefront deck. Sloping to level yard with lots of space for the kids and pets to run and play. Beautiful sand beach, southern views, outdoor shower, privacy and more. 1 bedroom bunkie.

AIRPORT ROAD $259,000
We found the perfect starter or retirement home for you! 1.10-ac level lot surrounded by mature trees. Cozy 2-bdrm, 1 bath home with open concept kitchen and living space. In-floor radiant heat and recently installed vinyl flooring throughout. Attached oversized single insulated garage.

VACANT LOTS

NEW LISTING West Lake $559,500 0.81AC
Drag Lake $499,000 7.24AC
Colborne Lake $289,000 4.83AC
Contau Lake $165,000 1.33AC
Harburn Road $99,000 44+AC
Irondale River $79,900 3.22AC
Trappers Trail $49,900 0.93AC
Deep Bay Rd $49,000 3.05 AC
NEW LISTING Tattersal Road $37,000 1.03AC
Fred Jones Road $34,500 6.59AC
Twist Lane $27,900 0.43 AC
Fred Jones Road $25,000 0.38AC